# North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee Minutes October 13, 2011

The North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee (NRAC) met on October 13, 2011, in the conference room on the third floor of the Archives and History/State Library Building, 109 East Jones Street, in downtown Raleigh. Committee members in attendance were: Mr. B. Perry Morrison Jr., chairman, Mrs. Millie Barbee, Mr. David R. Black, Dr. Edmond A. Boudreaux, Dr. Jerry C. Cashion, Ms. Wendy Grady, Mr. John Larson, Ms. Jo Ramsay Leimenstoll, Dr. Linda F. Stine, and Mrs. Barbara B. Snowden. Committee members who were absent were Dr. Mary Lynn Bryan and Mr. Glenn Perkins.

State Historic Preservation Office (HPO) staff members present were: Jeffrey J. Crow, state historic preservation officer; Ramona Bartos, deputy state historic preservation officer, Claudia Brown, Survey and National Register Branch supervisor; Ann Swallow, National Register coordinator; Jessica Dockery, National Register and survey specialist; Jannette Coleridge-Taylor, National Register assistant; Chandrea Burch, file and photography clerk; Anna Grantham, assistant file and photography clerk; Scott Power, Eastern Office supervisor; John Wood, restoration/preservation specialist, Eastern Office; Paul Fomberg, senior restoration specialist; and Justin Kockritz, environmental review specialist.

Visitors in attendance included Linda Carlisle, secretary of the Department of Cultural Resources; Dr. David Brook, director of the Division of Historical Resources; Office of State Archaeology staff Steve Claggett, state archaeologist, and Lawrence Abbott, National Register coordinator; Rex Todd, The Landmark Group; historic preservation consultants Heather Wagner, Heather Fearnbach, and Jennifer Martin Mitchell; and several graduate students in the UNCG historic preservation program.

Mr. Morrison called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. with welcoming comments. After reviewing the committee's policy on real or perceived conflicts of interest, he recognized Secretary Carlisle, who thanked the staff and NRAC members for their roles in preserving the state's historic resources. In acknowledgement of new committee member Dr. Linda F. Stine, Mr. Morrison asked all seated at the table to introduce themselves. Mr. Morrison then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2011, meeting. Mr. Larson moved for approval, Ms. Leimenstoll seconded the motion, and all voted for it.

Mr. Morrison called on Dr. Crow for his report. Dr. Crow first welcomed new NRAC member archaeologist Linda Stine, noting that she received her undergraduate degree and Ph.D. at the University of North Carolina and her master of arts degree at the College of William and Mary. He said that Dr. Stine does mostly historic archaeology and has taught at several colleges and universities. He then announced that Dr. Mary Lynn Bryan has resigned from the NRAC due to too many demands on her time and that he is conferring with Dr. Cashion about a replacement from the North Carolina Historical Commission.

Dr. Crow addressed budgets, reporting first that there had been no new developments regarding the state budget since the June meeting. Regarding the federal budget, he said that it is difficult to make predictions due to the political situation and that the federal government is operating under a

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continuing resolution. He reported that a proposed cut of eight percent in the Historic Preservation Fund would mean a roughly \$80,000 reduction for the HPO that would affect temporary positions, particularly geographic information system staff.

Dr. Crow concluded by introducing new deputy state historic preservation officer Ramona Bartos, who is from Georgia and holds an undergraduate degree from Emory University and a master of arts in historic preservation and a J.D. degree from the University of Georgia. She had a private law practice with municipal clients and has worked closely with the National Association of Preservation Commissions.

Ms. Bartos began her report on HPO activities with comments on the development of a new statewide historic preservation plan for 2013 to 2017, which would begin with an effort to broaden public participation through an Internet-based survey and creation of public advisory committees. Ms. Bartos also reported that scanning of the state's National Register nominations is proceeding well, with approximately half scanned and posted on the HPO's web site, and that the comprehensive architectural surveys of Beaufort and Carteret counties are continuing on schedule. She concluded by reporting that the department's human resources office had forwarded twenty-four applications for consideration for the western region preservation specialist position and that she expects it will be filled before the next NRAC meeting.

Mr. Morrison thanked Ms. Bartos for her report and then asked state archaeologist Steve Claggett for a report on his site visit to Trading Ford Monument Park in Davidson County, requested by the NRAC at their June 2011 meeting, to evaluate the section of the Trading Ford Road that runs across the south end of the property. Mr. Claggett said that he inspected the site on September 12, 2011, and identified a road trace approximately 160 feet long and fourteen to twenty feet wide running northeast to southwest. He found it to be heavily overgrown with trees and shrubby undergrowth and to have been frequently used for the dumping of a wide variety of debris. Regarding National Register significance, he said that the road survives as a short segment of what was once a continuous, unpaved road that led toward the Yadkin River and carried a variety of historic traffic; the road segment is at the intersection of two other roads that carried a greater volume of traffic in historic times; and the remnant of the road does not lend itself to easy historic or archaeological interpretation and retains little in the way of physical integrity. He said that from a preservation standpoint, it could be restored to a more presentable appearance and archaeological investigations might better define its appearance, but it is unlikely that any artifact recovery would enhance the road segment's interpretation or connect it to events commemorated by the park monument. He concluded by stating that in its present condition the road segment does not retain qualities that would support its inclusion in the National Register.

Mr. Larson asked a series of questions, to which Mr. Claggett and Dr. Crow replied. Mr. Claggett said that the section of road is recoverable but it will never be a contributing feature of the park because it is a very small fragment isolated from other parts of the road and has suffered from trash having been dumped on it. Regarding placement of the monument, Mr. Claggett said that proximity to the road might have been a factor but he believes that orientation to the Old Salisbury Road was more important. Mr. Larson said that Dr. Crow's clarification that the North Carolina Department of Transportation right-of-way at the south end of the property was gained through an easement rather than a transfer of land indicated that the park's boundaries remain intact.

Mr. Morrison requested that discussion about the park be deferred pending re-submittal of a nomination for it. Mr. Larson said that he would like to know when the park was placed on the Study List and when the easement was granted. He said that he appreciates staff's site visit and report and added that Ann Brownlee must be treated with respect for her noble efforts to protect a state-owned property.

Consideration of National Register nominations began with Jessica Dockery's presentation of eight properties in the central and southeastern regions of the state (see attached agenda). During her presentation of the Asheboro Hosiery Mills and Cranford Furniture Company Complex, Mr. Morrison commented on the high number of windows and asked if they are original. Consultant Heather Fearnbach, who prepared the nomination, said that most are early steel windows installed during the period of significance. Mr. Black noted that some of the windows are described as having opaque glass block and asked if the glass should be described as translucent. Ms. Fearnbach replied that the glass block permits very little natural light on the interior and that she will check her terminology.

Committee members asked numerous questions at the conclusion of Ms. Dockery's presentation. Regarding the Asheboro Hosiery Mills and Cranford Furniture Company Complex, Mr. Morrison asked if the 1998 addition is counted as a noncontributing resource, to which Ms. Dockery replied that additions to buildings are not counted. Mr. Larson asked why the period of significance for the complex ends in 1961 if the last campaign of construction was in 1957. Ms. Dockery explained that the industrial significance of the property continued beyond construction through 1961, the "fifty-year cut-off" specified by National Register guidelines unless exceptional significance within the last fifty years can be documented. From the audience, David Brook asked if any African Americans were involved in the development of Rochester Heights. Ms. Dockery replied that she believes it was a speculative project and that she could not answer without rereading the nomination. Mr. Black noted the name of one of the streets in the Rochester Heights Historic District in Raleigh has the surname of architect and North Carolina State University School of Design professor Joe Boaz but he does not know what conclusions could be drawn about the use of the name. Ms. Dockery replied that she thinks that the street names were meant to recognize locally important African Americans of the time.

Regarding the nominations for the Bray-Paschal House and the Hampton-Ellis Farm, Mr. Larson said that they do not contain the paragraph about potential archaeological significance and asked when it is inserted. Following a brief discussion between National Register coordinators Ann Swallow and Lawrence Abbott about the timing of nomination review by the Office of State Archaeology (OSA), it was determined that OSA had reviewed the nomination for the Bray-Paschal House and that the paragraph had been inserted in the nomination. Ms. Swallow said that staff has been consistent in sending nominations to OSA for review and that she would check on OSA's review of the Hampton-Ellis Farm. Upon a motion made by Mr. Black and seconded by Ms. Leimenstoll, the eight nominations were approved unanimously.

Mr. Morrison asked Ann Swallow to present the final three nominations for properties in the central and southeastern regions of the state (see attached agenda). Ms. Leimenstoll and Dr. Cashion announced that they would recuse themselves from consideration of the nomination for City Hospital-Gaston Memorial Hospital. After Ms. Swallow presented the other two

nominations, Dr. Cashion moved for their approval, Mrs. Barbee seconded the motion, and all voted for it. Ms. Leimenstoll and Dr. Cashion left the room before Ms. Swallow presented the City Hospital-Gaston Memorial Hospital nomination. Upon a motion made by Mrs. Barbee and seconded by Dr. Stine, all voted for approval of the nomination. Ms. Leimenstoll and Dr. Cashion returned to the room.

Scott Power presented a nomination for the Lincoln Park Historic District in Rocky Mount. Mr. Black made a motion to approve the nomination, Ms. Leimenstoll seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Dockery presented four nominations for properties in the western region of the state (see attached agenda). At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Black said that he was interested to read comments about the original Downtown Asheville Historic District nomination, which he wrote in 1978, and noted that it was part of one of the first, if not the first, multiple property listings in the country and one of the first historic district nominations with an inventory list. He commented that the amount of development generated by that nomination has been incredible and was not anticipated. Ms. Leimenstoll commended consultant Jason Harpe for preparing the nomination for the Shiloh Presbyterian Church Cemetery, a complicated undertaking due to the cemetery's location straddling the North Carolina-South Carolina line. Upon a motion by Mrs. Barbee, seconded by Ms. Grady, all voted for approval of the four nominations.

Mr. Morrison called for a lunch recess at 11:55 a.m. When the committee reconvened at 12:45 p.m., Ms. Swallow announced that during the lunch recess she had reviewed her email regarding the Hampton-Ellis Farm and had found that OSA had reviewed the nomination but she had overlooked the email message from OSA staff stating that insertion of the archaeology paragraph is appropriate and thus had failed to forward it to the nomination preparer. She said that the paragraph will be inserted and that henceforth email correspondence regarding OSA review of nominations will be printed and inserted in the respective nomination working file.

Consideration of Study List applications began with applications for properties in the central and southeastern regions of the state. First, Jessica Dockery presented the Aaron Brooks House in Robeson County with an explanation that staff recommended denial due to extensive alterations to the buildings, including the application of stucco directly to weatherboards which led to extensive deterioration. Ann Swallow then presented an application for a small boundary increase to the Monroe Residential Historic District in Union County with a staff recommendation for approval, followed by Claudia Brown who presented eight additional applications (see attached agenda). In the course of her presentation, Ms. Brown explained that staff recommended approval of all properties with the exception of the Hales-Tunnell-Bunn House in Wake County due to insufficient information about changes to the interior. Regarding Juniper Primitive Baptist Church in Johnston County, she said that staff recommended approval with the caution that a successful nomination likely would depend upon removal of the modern flat-roofed entrance porch. Mr. Black made a motion to approve staff recommendations for all central and southeastern properties with the exception of the Hales-Tunnell-Bunn House for which he moved for deferral pending a site visit to examine the interior. Ms. Leimenstoll seconded the motion and all voted for it.

Five Study List applications for properties in the western region were presented by Ms. Dockery and Ms. Brown (see attached agenda). Dr. Boudreaux made a motion to place all five properties

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on the Study List and Mrs. Snowden seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mrs. Barbee left the meeting.

Scott Power presented two Study List applications for properties in the eastern region, both with staff recommendations of denial (see attached agenda). He explained that a recent remodeling of the Henry C. Turnage House in Edgecombe County entailed alterations that significantly diminished architectural integrity and that the Willie B. and Fannie E. Harrison Farm in Nash County, an African American property, no longer had importance as a farm due to the loss of agricultural buildings and the insignificance of the remaining house. Mr. Morrison asked if the applicant had provided information on the six other African American-owned farms in the area of the Harrison Farm that are mentioned in the application. Mr. Power said that neither a map showing their location nor any other information was supplied on the other farms and added that development of context would be difficult, requiring the search of tax, census, and deed records. Dr. Stine commented that this sort of research has been facilitated by the posting of the records on the Internet and suggested that the committee recommend that the applicant do additional on-line research. Mr. Power replied that he would explain to the applicant that an amended application could be submitted pending additional research. Upon a motion made by Dr. Cashion and seconded by Ms. Leimenstoll, the committee voted unanimously to reject both applications from the eastern region.

Mr. Morrison thanked the committee and staff for their work and noted that the next NRAC meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2012. There being no further business, Mr. Morrison adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

State Historie Preservation Officer

JJC/cp Attachments

## NATIONAL REGISTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Conference Room, Third Floor, Archives and History Building October 13, 2011

## Final Agenda

COUNTY PROPERTY/LOCATION PRESENTER

### NATIONAL REGISTER

#### SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH

## Central and Southeastern Regions

Alamance Mebane Commercial Historic District

Jessica Dockery

Mebane

Old South Mebane Historic District

Mebane

Brunswick New Hope Presbyterian Church

Winnabow

Chatham Bray-Paschal House

Siler City vicinity

Durham Hampton-Ellis Farm

Bahama vicinity

Johnston West Selma Historic District

Selma

Randolph Asheboro Hosiery Mills and Cranford

Furniture Company Complex

Asheboro

Wake Rochester Heights Historic District

Raleigh

G. Dewey and Elma Arndt House

Ann Swallow

Raleigh

Cameron Village Historic District

Raleigh

Gaston City Hospital – Gaston Memorial Hospital

Gastonia

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Eastern Region

Edgecombe Lincoln Park Historic District

**Rocky Mount** 

Scott Power

Western Region

Buncombe Downtown Asheville Historic District

Jessica Dockery

Boundary Increase 3, Boundary Decrease

and Additional Documentation

Asheville

Cleveland Shiloh Presbyterian Church Cemetery

Grover vicinity

Henderson Clough H. Rice House

Hendersonville

Polk Sunnydale

Tryon

STUDY LIST

SURVEY AND NATIONAL REGISTER BRANCH

Central and Southeastern Regions

Robeson Aaron Brooks House Jessica Dockery

Maxton

Union Monroe Residential Historic District Ann Swallow

**Boundary Increase** 

Monroe

Anson Barrett-Faulkner House Claudia Brown

Peachland

Durham Foster and Geer Streets Historic District

Durham

McKissick House

Durham

Wright's Automatic Machinery Company

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Franklin Dr. A. S. Harris House

Seven Paths vicinity

Johnston Juniper Primitive Baptist Church

Four Oaks vicinity

Vance Eaton-Johnson School

Henderson

Wake Hales-Tunnell-Bunn House

Wendell

Western Region

Haywood Mount Sterling Fire Tower Jessica Dockery

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Swain Shuckstack Fire Tower

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

High Rocks Lookout Cabin

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Haywood Asbury Rogers Farm Claudia Brown

Clyde vicinity

Henderson Oakdale Cemetery

Hendersonville

Eastern Region

Edgecombe Henry C. Turnage House Scott Power

Fountain vicinity

Nash Willie B. and Fannie E. Harrison Farm

Nashville vicinity